

March 30, 1976

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But here's why I have to discuss that, Mr. Chairman, Mr. Dineen's name was formally and officially presented to the Legislature. We saw a copy of a letter from Mr. Dineen telling the Governor to withdraw his name. We saw a copy of a letter from the Governor to Mr. Dineen accepting a resignation, but the Legislature has received no formal communication from the Governor asking that Mr. Dineen's name be withdrawn. So I feel that, in spite of any exchange between the Governor and Mr. Dineen, his name is still before the Legislature. So the Legislature must take action or Mr. Dineen could withdraw his resignation and be reappointed and confirmed due to the inaction of the Legislature. So my feeling is that the Legislature, since the Governor's Office has failed to respond to Senator Savage's request for an official notice of withdrawal, the Legislature, to close the books, should go through the formal action of officially disapproving Mr. Dineen's appointment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Mahoney.

SENATOR MAHONEY: Mr. President, that's all fine. Senator Chambers, I can't agree with you. You're trying to make it so it will be up and over with so we don't waste a great deal of time. I'd read to the Legislature a letter of March 30th, 1976. The question is moot because the Governor has said to Mr. Dineen, after Mr. Dineen had tendered his resignation on March 29th, "It is with great regret that I accept your resignation as Fire Marshal of the State of Nebraska. Your dedication in the best interest of the State of Nebraska is very much appreciated". Sincerely, J. James Exon, Governor. On his stationery he has accepted the resignation. I think for the Legislature to prolong the agony of Mr. Dineen, for the Legislature to go further into this it would be just a great waste of time with less than two days. My point is that I have ask Senator Chambers back, I think that Senator Chambers wanted the platform which he had. He's spoken and given his reasons. I think that the Legislature itself now has nothing before it because the Legislature has been notified from the press and through the letter I just read that he has accepted the resignation of the Fire Marshal. So there is nothing further before us that we should debate or waste our time on.

PRESIDENT: Well that.... Unless something does come before us, that probably would be the Chair's position that.... But.... Senator Marsh.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. President, I'd like to ask Senator Chambers a question please.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers, could you respond?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Sure.

SENATOR MARSH: Senator Chambers, would you be willing not to bring this up until tomorrow. That would give the Governor an opportunity to place a letter on our desks by tomorrow morning. Therefore, it might be a moot question. But I do agree with you now, we have not heard directly from the Governor. Until I hear directly from the Governor I would like to at least have the opportunity to vote on this, if we are not hearing from the Governor by tomorrow.